**Chemistry Lab Safety Rules**

**Attire**

1. Safety goggles **must be worn at all times** while in the laboratory. This rule must be followed whether you are actually working on an experiment or simply writing in your lab notebook.
2. Closed toe shoes and long pants must be worn in the lab. Sandals and shorts are not allowed.
3. Long hair must be tied back when using open flames.

**Conduct**

1. Eating and drinking are strictly prohibited in the laboratory.
2. No unauthorized experiments are to be performed. If you are curious about trying a procedure not covered in the experimental procedure, consult with your laboratory instructor.
3. Never taste anything. Never directly smell the source of any vapor or gas; instead by means of your cupped hand, waft a small sample to your nose. Do not inhale these vapors but take in only enough to detect an odor if one exists.
4. Coats, backpacks, etc., should not be left on the lab benches and stools. Beware that lab chemicals can destroy personal possessions.
5. Always wash your hands before leaving lab.
6. Learn where the safety and first-aid equipment is located. This includes fire extinguishers, shower and eye-wash stations.
7. Notify the instructor immediately in case of an accident.

**Proper Handling of Chemicals and Equipment**

1. Consider **all** chemicals to be hazardous unless you are instructed otherwise.
2. Know what chemicals you are using. Carefully read the label *twice* before taking anything from a bottle.
3. Many common reagents, for example, alcohols and acetone, are highly flammable. **Do not use them anywhere near open flames.**
4. Always pour acids into water. If you pour water into acid, the heat of reaction will cause the water to explode into steam, sometimes violently, and the acid will splatter.
5. If chemicals come into contact with your skin or eyes, **flush immediately** with copious amounts of water and consult with your instructor.
6. Never point a test tube or any vessel that you are heating at yourself or your neighbor--it may erupt like a geyser.
7. Dispose of chemicals properly. Unless you are explicitly told otherwise, assume that only water may be put in the lab sinks.
8. Clean up all broken glassware immediately and dispose of the broken glass properly.
9. Never leave burners unattended. Turn them off whenever you leave your workstation. Be sure that the gas is shut off at the bench rack when you leave the lab.
10. Beware of hot glass--it looks exactly like cold glass.